

HUC/IHS/ EPA HAMP Meeting
9-20-17
Notes and Action Items

USDA PER Update – The HUC and IHS had a call with USDA’s Mike Luecker and Jeff Hays to discuss the update to the PER that would satisfy USDA’s comments. It was agreed that IHS would provide a narrative addendum to the PER that addressed USDA’s comments and they would update the PER introduction. In addition to the information already provided to USDA in the joint-agency response document, the addendum would contain actual O+M cost information for the existing treatment plant operations at Upper Moenkopi that would likely corroborate cost estimates contained in the life cycle cost analysis for the treatment alternative.

IHS will summarize in an email what they believe USDA agreed to regarding the PER revision. They will send that narrative to the HUC who can then forward to USDA to ensure that they agree. Assuming the addendum narrative will suffice, IHS expects to complete the update within 45 days so that the HUC can apply to USDA for funding.

IHS/EPA/HUC Project Phasing Meeting – The HUC has requested a project funding and phasing meeting with EPA and IHS on Monday September 25th from 9-11am in advance of the HUC board meeting on Tuesday September 26th. The HUC has agreed to send out a meeting invite and agenda for the meeting. Possible agenda topics include: 1) Updated total project costs; 2) Proposed Tribal/HUC contributions to capital and O+M costs; 3) Potential IHS contributions; 4) Potential EPA contributions; 5) Determining USDA application for loan/grant remainder; 6) Cost of individual phases.

EPA and IHS stated that their agency contributions are still contingent upon the HUC completing the following: 1) Submitting an application to the USDA for funding the remaining cost of the entire regional system; 2) Obtaining first mesa signatures on the Utility/Tribal/Village agreements in support of the HAMP; 3) Developing a first-year operating budget and completed financials in support of USDA application and IHS/EPA application requirements; and 4) Completing any follow-up requirements for USDA funding.

Capital Cost Updates – The HUC asked if geotechnical evaluations had been completed on the proposed route to evaluate the likelihood of encountering rock which could affect construction costs. IHS agreed to evaluate the risk of encountering rock.

Tribal Council Meeting – EPA asked if the November tribal council dates had been set. Both EPA and IHS would like to meet with the council to update them on the HAMP. The HUC stated that they believed the next council date would be the 2nd or 3rd week in November but they agreed to provide EPA and IHS with updated dates.

First Mesa Village Utility Agreement Update – The HUC met with First Mesa on Monday September 11th to discuss Village/Utility agreements. FM indicated that they support the project but further education and outreach is necessary to obtain their signatures to the agreement.